JEFFERSON PROVING GROUND

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

HEARING

ORIGINAL

DATE:

May 14, 1997

PLACE:

Salvation Army, 331 East Main St.

Madison, IN 47250

TIME:

7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Mr. Paul Cloud, Co-chairperson

Mr. Richard Hilll, Co-chairperson

Audience Members

Sharon Shields

S.A.S. Reporting Service

3650 N. Old SR 62, Madison, IN 47250

Business: (812) 265-2994 Fax: (812) 273-5220 A public hearing of The Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board meeting was held in The Salvation Army Headquarters, 331 East Main Street, Madison, IN at 7:00 P.M. on May 14, 1997.

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OPENING STATEMENTS BY MR. RICHARD HILL:

It's a little after seven (7) so we will go ahead and get started. And my name's Richard Hill. I'm the community co-chair along with Paul Cloud, the Army co-chair of the RAB. And we are here to have a meeting tonight and I just want to kind of remind people briefly - I have to have notes. It's been a long day. Kind of remind you tonight and remind myself of this once in a while too, what our purpose is here. And what we want to do with the RAB is to provide a mechanism for the communities to communicate to the Army any interest, priorities, concerns that they may have about the environmental clean up of the property. That's as simple as I think that I can put it. It snow balls into a lot of other stuff but I think that's the gist of it. We have some items on the table up here. You had a chance to pick those up as you came in. We hope that you did. We have the agenda and also the sign in sheet that if you didn't get signed in when you came in you can sign up

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later. I think that we'll just go right ahead and start on the agenda. We have a few people tonight to give us some presentations about what's going on out there at the Proving Ground. And so we will start with that. And at the end we will have an open discussion but I'm sure most people would be open to questions as we go through on some of these presentations also. So Paul do you want to just start out with the first item?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Sure. Good evening. As Richard said I'm Paul Cloud, the co-chair from the Army. And appreciate Richard's opening remarks. I really don't have anything I would like to say right now other than to get into the initial presentation. So with that I will start. The first thing we would like to give you an up date on is the status of transfer and leases of property in the cantonment area. It falls under what we call Finding of Suitability to Lease or Finding of Suitability to Transfer. Some of you who went to the Town Hall meeting last month at the library will recognize some of these slides. They were the ones we used at that meeting. They are still current and up to date. A little history.

(SLIDE TURNED ON)

The cantonment area is approximately thirty-four hundred (3400) acres. That FOSL, Suitability to Lease was signed last May. The Lease was signed about two (2) weeks later. It is a - what is called a Lease in Furtherance of Conveyance. So the intent there is to actually convey the property when it is environmentally and UXO safety wise suitable for transfer. And the fourth item here. Title Transferred as the areas are That's UXO or environmental. Just for information in the area we are talking about for the lease is this area here (indicating) and around here. This one (1) pink area at one (1) time was a designated potential park area. The County of Jefferson has retracted that request. They have retained this one (1) (indicating). This parcel will be transferred tot hem at a later date. This area we will talk a little bit about that as far as UXO in a little while. We can put this slide up as time and circumstances require to refresh your memory on certain issues. The other documents that have been signed to lake, the pump station downtown. That FOST was signed last year. We do have some additional information on the status of that which we will provide tonight. It appears that that transfer is much closer than we thought. Building 216 and the railroad trackage not only has a FOST been signed but

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that transfer was the first transfer of actual property on the Proving Ground. It occurred last November. the other one document that's been signed is the FOST for the Krueger Lake area for Jefferson County. Again just to refresh your memory that's this area right here (indicating) which is basically was inside the main gate on Highway 421. Current FOST that is being worked on right now is for a parcel that is bounded on the west and the north sides by Paper Mill and Woodfill Road so that's how we came to that generic title to that parcel. buyer, Mr. Ford, has requested from the Army that that property be transferred to him and we expect to have that transfer to the lessee, which is in this case Mr. Ford, July of this year. The actual acreage has changed a little bit. Instead of approximately forty (40) acres, it's now approximately thirty-six (36). But other than that the - there hasn't been a whole lot of changes. That area, if I can find it, (indicating) is approximately right in here. This is Woodfill Road up here and Paper Mill Road here or basically right in here. about half a dozen to ten (10) buildings that are part of that parcel also. Are there any questions that anyone would like to ask about either past leases, transfers or the current one that is being worked on at this time? What I would like to do now is a brief update on Okay.

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the removal of the unexploded ordinance in the cantonment And just to identify some of the areas that have a potential for UXO is this area here (indicating) which we refer to as the Airfield area. This western former park parcel, this parcel up here we refer to as the six hundred (600) building complex area. This area here, the hundred (100) acres parcel, that has been completed. I'll discuss that in a minute. This acreage here is approximately eight hundred (800) acres. That's just south of and to the west of Krueger Lake. And these two (2) pie slices up here that has been done also. Army's commitment to the community was that they would perform a four (4) foot below surface clearance of UXOs in those areas for agricultural and recreational use of those areas. This particular parcel right here (indicating), this hundred (100) acres was done last summer. Found one (1) piece of ordinance that was detonated and the lease to Mr. Ford has been revised now so that he has access to this acreage for agricultural purposes. Before he had no access to that acreage. This work here has been done but the lease has not been revised yet. We still have a road, a section of a road that we need to address. Once that is completed the lease will be provided to allow access there. The Huntsville Corps of Engineers and their contractor have

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the funds to commence work on this section (indicating). We expect that contract to be awarded by the end of this That work will take somewhere between eight (8) and twelve (12) months to complete. It's approximately seven (700) to eight hundred (800) acres. They will lay out fifty (50) foot grids and sweep it with metal detectors. Any hit they get they will have to physically excavate and investigate to see what it is. That's why it takes so long. It's also dependent on the weather. After this area is complete this is the next area that we will attack as far as UXO removal. The Corps is analyzing that area now. The last area is this parcel over here (indicating) that we will do last. We expect due to funding that FY98 we'll start that which starts in October of this year. FY99 will start in September of next year. We would have the funding to address this The process by which we determined that there were certain acreages inside the cantonment parcel that had a tendency for UXO was done by the Corps of Engineers in a document called an Archive Search Report and that was completed in 1995. Of the approximate fifty-one hundred (5100) acres in the cantonment area, this is what they determined had a potential for UXO based on records review, personnel interviews, looking at the over head aerial photographs of the facility and locking some of

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the facility that they had access to. Again the Army will be cleaning to a depth of four (4) feet below the surface. Anything below that would be paid for and accomplished by the users. So should someone want to come in and dig a footer or a basement after the property is transferred, there will be a deed restriction to prevent that until they have provided that level of clearance. If you are interested in schedule, we have basically a bar chart here and it's also in the hand outs on the table that show when various things have been done. Now the search report was completed in 1995. The hundred (100) acre area was completed last summer. This thirty (30) acre portion was completed without the road being done late last year. We will be in the Airfield this year. Late this year and into the next the lake And then lastly the Western Park parcel. And just to show you a little different prospective as far as what's been found out there, at the hundred (100) acre parcel which was done last year we found one (1) piece of ordinance which was destroyed. We also found about nine (9) tons of scrap. And that was recycled. On the thirty (30) acre parcel we found a hundred and seventeen (117) Most of those were considered to have explosive and we also found about two (2) tons of scrap. show you the differences in the areas, this eight (8)

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acre parcel is basically across the road from the hundred (100) acre parcel, the hundred (100) acre parcel being right here (indicating) and the eight (8) acre parcel up in here (indicating). So it's just very close to it. And you can see that there is a significant difference in what was found on the search. We haven't even done the four (4) foot below acreage. This should not be a surprise as this was a border test range. And we expected to find some items here. These areas - there was a potential but it's not anywhere as great as what is found here (indicating). This area here will be done along with the eight hundred (800) acres below the park probably starting next year. Again the Airfield area removal will start. We expect that contract will be awarded by the end of the month and it will start, the actual field work this summer and go for eight (8) or twelve (12) months. The area below the park should start probably after the field work will start, either late this year or early 1998 as well as the park parcel will probably start 1999. Are there any questions anyone has regarding UXO removal effort in the cantonment area? That's all I have as far as the FOST and FOSLs and the transfers. If anyone does have a question I'm going to be here later. The only other thing I do have, and it's not really on the agenda, but it was provided to me by

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the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. It's on the table here and you will see a four (4) slide presentation as to the status of the completed uranium issue north of the firing line, the Delta Impact area. Mr. Pittiglio could not be here tonight but he did provide this information and ask that I do make it available. His toll free phone number is right on the first sheet there so if there is anyone, either in the audience or you know of anyone out in the community who is interested in this subject please take this number down and provide it to them. And it is a toll free call and you can call him and ask him questions specific to that issue. Thank you.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Thank you Paul. Just as a real quick addition to Paul mentioning the hand out on the NRC, Regulatory Commission, Paul and I both spoke to Mr. Pittiglio n the phone and when I talked to him the information is briefly outlined in here what we talked about. They don't believe there's any immediate exposure problem. And the NRC is running low on funds. They have other pressing problems to deal with and they are low on travel funds. So that's why Larry couldn't be here tonight. They do have some people working on the DU, depleted uranium, problem at the Proving Ground. They are

doing what they call degradation modeling. And that's basically to see - they are doing tests to see about the deterioration of the projectile. In other words how much did they break down in natural environment so they could tell you know how immediate the problems might be. It doesn't look like it is. But the immediate problems they are doing tests to make sure. And as stated in here they expect to have that done around August. You should be able to attend future RAB meetings so probably somewhere around that time frame we will discuss findings and future developments. So that being said I think the next thing that we have here is Mr. George Williamson the third from the Corps of Engineers to tell us some more about FOST and FOSLs and we will just let him take the floor.

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMSON III:

Thanks Richard. Thanks Paul. I appreciate it. Thanks for the invitation to be here tonight. Paul asked me to come up and talk about what we do. First of all we are with the Corps of Engineers in Louisville working in the real estate division. So we are responsible for about six (6) closed Army bases within three (3) or four (4) states. And what we got here is first and foremost a Finding of Suitability to

Transfer or a Finding of Suitability to Lease which assumes we have a contract with the buyer. At this point in time the buyer needs a deed. So I prepare a deed. Where is this deed going? I will start at the top and work my way back. On Army properties which we are responsible for in five (5) states, you will want to get this deed to T. West, Secretary of the Army. He's the one with the authority to execute deeds on BRAC properties within the Army jurisdiction. We have several levels of review so I'm going to take - I'm going to start with the FOST and FOSL. And both of them are similar documents. On one (1) is Finding of Suitability to Lease we'll say we have authority to lease this property to a lessee. In a situation of Jefferson Proving Ground it has to do with Lease in Furtherance of Conveyance to Ford Lumber and Building Supply. And in the Finding of Suitability to Transfer we have one (1) parcel that's being worked out there now. So as soon as I get the Finding of Suitability to Transfer which has been reviewed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Karen and David here.

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MR. PAUL CLOUD:

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John.

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMSON III:

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John. John Manley. Sorry John. will prepare that deed. And I hope that the Finding of Suitability to Transfer is in good form. Because when I get the deed prepared I have to work with the buyer to make sure it's acceptable, i.e., is it pursuant to the contract? This applies on any base. When you have a buyer and a contract oft times they are represented by attorneys so then we start the review process between myself and the attorneys, for the other side or for the buyer, representing their client. I'm representing my client. And oft times we'll - we'll have a problem with one (1) of those that sneaks up. And we have to begin the negotiation process on whatever issue it might be. We finally get the deed reviewed and approved by the buyer's attorney and the buyer. And our review process starts from Louisville to my headquarters in Washington. It's reviewed by our BRAC office up there, their attorneys and the environmentalists there and sent to the Reviewed one (1) more time by the Army General Counsel and the environmentalists in the Pentagon at the Army level. And this is in - the next level from Mr. West is a fellow by the name of Paul W. Johnson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Housing. He is the Deputy Secretary that will recommend

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execution of this deed by Mr. West. Mr. West will execute the deed, forward it back to Louisville, and I will have a closing with the buyer. And that's the basic process. Time wise they are almost impossible to predict. It depends on who's doing the review and what problems they - they find or have to be worked out. the last three (3) or four (4) deeds I've done it's gone a lot smoother than it did in the first few. And I think it's people's drafting techniques in those type things that the reviewers have to get used to. Probably best guess from the time I get this Finding of Suitability to Transfer there's some issues that need working right now. Finding of Suitability to Transfer on the property of JPG, this next tract, it will probably be my estimate sixty (60) days for preparation of deed. I have already started working on the deed. But I cannot put the environmental covenants restrictions into the deed until I have that Finding of Suitability to Transfer because these are my directions. That's why I, like I said a minute ago, that I want a good, clear Finding of Suitability to Transfer. It makes my job a lot easier. And then probably twenty (20) days after I get it if it's in good form I will have it off to the Secretary of the Army for those further reviews. And my headquarters level and then Pentagon level through the execution by

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Mr. West. Finding of Suitability to Lease is the same process, very same process. It's preparation of the lease because we have a lessee and in our scenario that we are working within the Army when we sell a piece of property to a buyer one (1) of the conditions is because we have some environmental problems we can't go on and transfer as if we were buying a house. You sign a real estate contract, go to the bank get your appraising done, get your loan approved, you buy the house. In our scenario we have to have that direction that this property is suitable for the environmental and public health and welfare before we can have a deed to transfer real estate. Talking is a good process. It takes a lot longer than what people are used to in their everyday real estate transactions. The residents for example. It's the best one. Oft times people don't understand the delays that are involved because of our environmental screening. At present Karen in her capacity at EPA and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management are reviewing the Finding of Suitability to Transfer for their comments to submit to Mr. Cloud. And I don't know what they are but they're down here working hard every Everybody - I think Jefferson Proving Ground is day. starting to make some progress as far as their cantonment area. And transfers of real estate and getting things

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done. You've seen Mr. Cloud stand up here and tell you about UXO and other environmental repetition. Some progress is being made. Oft times we have the appropriations problems. They get worked out and moved forward. Any questions about deeds and leases at JPG or the process in general specifically?

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

 $\ensuremath{\text{I'm}}$ from the EPA on the RCRA side of the house.

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMSON III:

Un-huh (yes).

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

And not just at this phase but at various other phases it's been brought up when the regulatory agencies bring up a deed restriction because of environmental, say you can't put a ground water well in for drinking purposes because of potential ground water contamination and the agency recommends a deed restriction for ground water use. And you put it then in the deed yet you still have negotiation after that with the buyer that --

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMSON III:

I wouldn't change one (1) of those.

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

Okay.

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMSON III:

No I wouldn't change one (1) of those. If somebody gives me clear direction in the Finding of Suitability to Transfer I want a good one and I want that as my Bible.

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

So if the agency then gets to the point of like having certain things standardized within our region or nationally, this is a typical deed restriction, our attorneys like for like ground water use restriction and we recommend that in the comments, you're you're pretty open that that language will go in it?

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMSON III:

Exactly I will. Okay? I'm going to qualify like any lawyer you talk to. We're going to do it before we say in the middle and after okay? I'll give you an example: Fort Benjamin Harrison, the Indiana bat.

The Secretary of the Army says protect the Indiana bat within the confines of that installation within the wooded area. Fish and Wildlife Service submits their restrictive covenants with reference to Indiana bat. Enter the problem: site specific. Okay? And drafting styles. It doesn't match what I got to say. I've got to say the same thing they do but I want to improve it a little bit okay? Now we do the same thing with you, with Paul Cloud's permission in JPG. I'm not going to go off in space all by myself here okay? Back and forth I spend a lot of time drafting pieces, site specific restrictions with reference to the Indiana bat at Fort Benjamin Harrison. Back and forth with Fish and Wildlife. Well they liked mine a lot better when it was through okay? And I think they may be sending them out. But the problem is they might not fit the next site. problem of real estate transactions and let's say the boiler plate restriction, it can be done. But oft times you just keep running into that where it's a little bit different, a teeny bit different. But I'm going to go back to the agency. I'm going to go back to the environmental coordinator and the BTC and I'm going to get everybody in the same league. And hopefully it's going to be a little better and it's going to look like something I drafted. And I'm going to - it's hard for

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that draftsman of that piece of boiler plate too. If I had to draft a complicated restriction and I didn't know the property, I hadn't cast my eyes on it or walked across it and saw the specific other problems, you're better off if you get out there and walk around on these bases because they are all different. That's the name of real estate. There's no two (2) pieces of property that are the same. And it's often tough for somebody setting in their office. Does that answer your question?

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

Yeah.

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMSON III:

If I see a problem I'm going to tell you and if you will sign off on it and hope - if we agree. If we don't agree, I haven't been there yet okay? I'm not going to go off into space. Did that answer that?

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

(Nods head yes)

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMSON III:

That's how they handle it in Fish and

Wildlife. It worked out really good. And you got them back - you got those copies back and forth. You got their review and your sign off and they were happy with it. Kind of proud of it to tell you the truth. Again the first - not to belabor it but the first time I had ever done that to protect an endangered species. However it wasn't endangered on Fort Benjamin Harrison. But the Secretary of the Army says we will and so we did. Appreciate the introduction and be able to talk about it. Thank you.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Thank you very much. Our next person coming up right now is Mike Early. And he's going to give us an up date on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Army Memorandum of Understanding. And also after that maybe we can get some information in about the water well deal transfer also. Mike?

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Thank you Richard. I'm Mike Early.

I'm the base transition coordination for Jefferson

Proving Ground, the office of Secretary of Defense Base

Transition Coordination office. I have an appointment.

I work at the Army's Test and Evaluation Command. Command

BRAC Program Manger also. I want to start and reverse that order if I can because Tommy just finished talking. We've been working with his office as recently as I guess this afternoon or this morning's information on the transfer of the pump station. That document was signed a while back. I don't know why the Secretary of the Army or within the Army Secretariat and we have found out that the Department of Health and Human Services has now signed off on that document also. So we expect that that will be the process to continue and in the very near future that will be coming down from Health and Human Services down to the City of Madison. So that's another good news. We should have more on that by the next meeting. The main purpose tonight is to talk to you about the agreement that we the Army have been working on with Fish and Wildlife I guess since about June or July of last year. Present to you an information briefing on this partnership. In my remarks I will follow this agenda. As I said we start out with the purpose and this is an information briefing that will cover the highlights of that agreement. Before we start out a bit of background and for most of you I think you'll find you should know most of this. I see some people that have been attending several of the meetings. And as Paul talked we have a four thousand (4,000) acre cantonment

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North of the firing line we have fifty-one thousand (51,000) acres. The Archive Search Report that was done by the Corps of Engineers they say there is a potential for unexploded ordinance in all that area. talked at the public meeting. Again the Army does not have the funds budgeted for the clean up of fifty-one thousand (51,000) acres. It's estimated to be two (2) to eight (8) billion dollars. And I think also significantly there would be an adverse environmental impact if we went in to clear fifty-one thousand (51,000) acres because you are essentially creating a strip mine. In the property disposal process the Fish and Wildlife Service identified that property as a refuge. And they have not released that claim for that property. have expressed some concerns about the UXO, the unexploded ordinance, and they are still continuing their interest in managing the natural resources. significant natural resource asset. The Army and Fish and Wildlife Service began working on this agreement as I said about July of '96. And I'm pleased to report that we have reached a - reached that agreement. While it is not what we started out - it's a good short term agreement and what it does is allow us to create a test partnership to manage the resources up there consistent with the eco system based management approach.

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guess in layman's terms what that means is the Army is focused in managing that in accordance with Army regulations. The Fish and Wildlife Service has the federal lead in - in managing natural resources. during this trial period they will be doing more out there than what the Army has been doing. They will be doing some studies on - and I will talk about some of those as we go on. The Army is funding this for a three (3) year trial partnership. And we are funding it at a quarter of a million dollars a year. The general terms of the agreement, the Army will still be a landowner. We retain the unequivocal liability for an unexploded ordinance, depleted uranium and the environmental actions. This has been consistent throughout. The Army is responsible for these. Also very important that the Air Guard range will continue their operations out there. Demonstration area will be used if needed. There is money in the budget. There is still money for some trials and they may use - come back and use that site The NRC will continue their license termination actions and that's the material that's in the hand out Larry Pittiglio from the NRC. They will continue those efforts. Having said that here's what we're going to do. On the Fish and Wildlife side they will prepare this integrated nat - natural resource management plan, get

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into examining in more detail than what the Army does the forest, and in the interior grasslands, endangered species and the acquatic habitats and look at those. And within their authority they will assist us in law enforcement. Also a part of their piece of this agreement, they will explore opportunities for control recreation use, see if that is possible in the future, and will also assist us, the Army, in some operations and maintenance. Operations and maintenance is an Army term that we throw around. What they will be doing is some of the work out on the dam at Old Timber's Lake, working around in that area to insure they maintain the quality of that lake and a couple of other areas as well. What does the Army do as a part of this agreement? We will retain our responsibility for the security. We, the Army, will review the Fish and Wildlife Service plan or plans that they develop. And to insure that they are consistent with the Army regulations and with security plans and other plans that the Army may have, but I would emphasize that as far as the biological aspects of this plan they will present, Fish and Wildlife Service will have the lead. They will also - the Army will administer the hunting and fishing. It will be done in consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service and with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

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what we have done in the past and we're going to continue This is a trial partnership. We are doing this to do. through fiscal year '99, that's September of '99. We will be going through this process. It's an opportunity to examine in more detail the eco system that is there and see how it can better bed used in the future. may well lead to a refuge like management system there. There are also during that time period - there is a potential for changes, improvements, developments in unexploded ordinance protection capability so we would also look for opportunities there. There may be an opportunity to - for some areas to be cleared for some greater public use than what is permitted right now. The future, no promises but we will certainly be looking at that. We have some concerns to deal with between the Army and the Fish and Wildlife Service. A lot of that of course is just funding. The current level of effort is above what we are currently funding to conduct natural resources but we've made the commitment to increase the funding in that area for three (3) years and develop natural resources management. Fish and Wildlife is currently not funded at all. So we have some work to do in that area to explore opportunities for more permanent funding agreement and arrangements in our budget process. Land ownership, what that means is the DOD is Department

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of Defense. DOI is Department of Interior. And at agency levels there needs to be discussion on transferring liability. This has significant interest at the DOD level and on May 9th the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for environmental security, Ms. Sherri Goodman, met with Department Interior officials so there is work on going at that level. And we hope that at some point there may be something to be worked out in that In summary then I would end by saying that we hope that the funding and liability issues can be worked out over this next two (2) years or so. partnership process. This is a very significant opportunity to promote the natural resources and it also is an opportunity to preserve part of the eco system of the Ohio River Valley. And I would comment or close by making the comment out of the Fish and Wildlife press release that "Jefferson Proving Ground contains one (1) of the largest unfragmented blocks of mature forest in the lower midwest. Such forested areas are increasingly hard to find in this heavily agricultural region although they provide wild habitat for many wildlife species, even those considered endangered". This is - again I can't emphasize enough how significant this asset is that you have right here in this area and we look forward to entering into this partnership with the Fish and Wildlife

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Service. That concludes comments I would like to make. Sir do you have a question?

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MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

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I have several. First off DOD - I'm from Ripley County. DOD has up until the closing has always paid Ripley County. A majority of the Proving Ground is in Ripley County. This agreement says (reading from something in hands) that the Sheriff in Jefferson County, Ripley County and Jennings County will be expected to work with the DOD, I assume DOD, to combat trespassing, poaching on the firing range.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

What agreement are you reading from?

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

I'm reading from the Memorandum of Agreement between U.S. Army Test Evaluation Command, Region 3, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for Natural Resource Management of the firing range of Jefferson Proving Ground.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

That is not the current agreement

that is signed sir.

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MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Well this one (1) was in effect April

MR. MIKE EARLY:

No sir. It's not the agreement it's not the agreement. But go ahead and ask your question.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Next is what happens to Building 485 which is Old Timbers?

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Let me - let me talk about the jurisdiction there. And I don't remember the date. Bob do you know? Hudson? 1995? Somewhere in 1995 the Governor of the State of Indiana agreed to the recision of exclusive federal jurisdiction? There is now concurrent jurisdiction across all of Jefferson Proving Ground property. The Sheriff of respective counties, the Indiana State Police have jurisdiction at Jefferson Proving Ground as do the federal law enforcement

agencies, Fish and Wildlife Service, the F.B.I. and also the United States Army. 2 3 MR. WILLIAM CORNING: 4 Who pays for that? Me as a citizen 5 of Ripley County? Who pays for it? 6 7 MR. MIKE EARLY: 8 Who pays for what sir? 9 10 MR. WILLIAM CORNING: 11 The protection you are getting 12 through all the sheriffs and Indiana State Police? 13 U. S. Fish and Wildlife isn't going to give us anything. 14 15 MR. MIKE EARLY: 16 U. S. Fish and Wildlife - the U. S. 17 Fish and Wildlife enforces those laws as they have done 18 in the past. 19 20 MR. WILLIAM CORNING: 21 They don't pay me. 22 23 MR. MIKE EARLY: 24

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What do you mean they don't pay

nothing?

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

well they haven't. Occasionally they say if the Congress votes them enough money to give the counties some money in lieu of taxes then they pay. But in the case of Jennings County for ten (10) or twelve (12) years now, I forget what that was, they didn't pay a cent of money for Muscatatuck. What people are going to be able to use the Proving Ground? Now this is - you say this doesn't apply (indicating) but this says retired military and former JPG employees and other designated by Tecom. And I had one (1) of our people in Ripley County, one (1) of the elected officials, said it sounded to him like they are setting up a hunting club.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

I understand your question. And is your question who is allowed to use Jefferson Proving Ground?

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Right.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

I guess I'm getting disappointed that people consider that the Army is running a private hunting club since the Army is not running a private hunting club.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

They think U. S. Fish and Wildlife is.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Well they aren't either. So it is government property. It is Army property. The Army regulations that deal with the use of property for recreation activities are very specific about who can use Army property for recreation activities. And our security regulations are very specific about controlled access for those areas. And those are what we follow.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Well we had an agreement with the Army.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

I'm sorry. What agreement are you

speaking of?

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Ripley County had an agreement with the Army until U. S. Fish and Wildlife said no way would they agree with that. And that was fact.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

 $\label{eq:what agreement} What \ agreement? \quad I \ know \ of \ no$ agreement between the Army and Ripley County.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Colonel Adams.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

I know Colonel Adams.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Was here. And sat down with U.S. Fish and Wildlife from Minneapolis, from Bloomington and representatives of each of the three (3) counties. And informed us that we had a two (2) day meeting unless we could reach agreement with U.S. Fish and Wildlife. And we did. And three (3) days later U.S. Fish and Wildlife said no way would they agree to anything like that. It's

caused a lot of hard feelings. I understand why people can't go on that Proving Ground. I wouldn't want to let people go on there because you and I both know and probably everybody in the room knows there's people that are going to go on there and if they see a shell they're going to say damn that would look good on my fireplace. And they might be high enough that they don't have to worry about the fireplace if they pick it up. But we feel kind of left out about what's going on because there's been agreements, there's no agreement, there's this agreement.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Sir I know of no signed agreement.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

That's the thing.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Between Ripley County and the United States Army. There was at a point in time a re-use plan that was developed by the three (3) counties combined. And that re-use plan was devel - as I say it was developed and was reviewed and was rejected. That's the only plan or something or something that maybe - an

agreement that I'm aware of.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

It wasn't in writing. It was a hand shake deal. It was done at the Proving Ground. Bob, Colonel Wheatley and those people.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Bob? Mr. Hudson?

MR. BOB HUDSON:

If I recall the meeting he's talking about - it was a two (2) day meeting - and he's right in that it was kind of like the local level people, the community and I believe those guys. I don't recall anybody from Minneapolis.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

The realty man from Minneapolis.

MR. BOB HUDSON:

But anyway they tentatively agreed to agreement on a given day. But a few days later when that reached a high enough level with the Fish and Wildlife was out of the house they said no. So it was just a

local tentative agreement that didn't get anyplace because it got shot down as soon as it got up to a higher level. I don't know if Minneapolis did that or they did it in Washington. Is that basically how you remember that Paul? MR. PAUL CLOUD: Yeah. I don't remember any formal signed agreement. MR. BOB HUDSON: I don't think it got that far because they wouldn't do it. MR. WILLIAM CORNING: That's all. MR. MIKE EARLY: Anybody else? Yes ma'am. MRS. LILIAN CARMER: Are copies of this lease available? 23 MR. MIKE EARLY:

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There is - it's not a lease. It's a

Memorandum of Agreement.

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MRS. LILIAN CARMER:

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Is it available?

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MR. MIKE EARLY:

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And I have a copy. I can give you a

To build on this man's question how

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copy. Sir?

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MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

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many people does the Army, who as we've been reminded a

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thousand times, owns this place, how many people do you

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all have on security for fifty-four thousand (54,000)

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acres? You said, I mean it was an agreement between the state police and the F.B.I. Now something tells me the

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F.B.I. is not going to come running in if somebody goes

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across that fence.

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MR. MIKE EARLY:

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They will not come in and cross the

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fence sir. The federal - Tommy help me out on this legal side. If there is a capital crime committed there they

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have jurisdiction.

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MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

In fact how many people do you have over on security?

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MR. MIKE EARLY:

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Federal capital crime.

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MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

How many people do you have on security for fifty-one thousand (51,000) acres? To answer that man's question we're paying for our sheriffs. We're paying for our state police. We're paying to keep security at a place you don't even want to clean up? Well that's what you said.

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MR. MIKE EARLY:

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MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

That's what you said. You said state police. That's our - isn't that our state taxes go to the state police? Don't we pay for the state police?

Pardon me?

MR. MIKE EARLY:

That's your statement.

MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

Well that's - the question is how many people do you have on security?

MR. MIKE EARLY:

We monitor the entrance and egress control of people going in and out of the cantonment area. We work with the local law enforcement agencies and we work with the Air National Guard who is there and monitoring entrance and egress control.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Also maintain the fence around the entire forty-eight (48) mile perimeter fence, which is a physical barrier to access. So if someone reaches the fence they are trespassing.

MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

Oh well for what they're going in for trespassing is the least of your worries. I mean wouldn't that be - you know? I mean if you all are liable which you claim you are, but they get in there and they get blown up which is very well possible because of the unexploded - unexploded ordinances, you would be liable. No you wouldn't be liable?

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MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Yes they would.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

That would have to be determined by -

MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

What I'm saying is it's going to be a lot harder on you, the liability, through the trespassing on the man that went in. Wouldn't it? I know that's my statement again.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Again liability is going to be determined in the court.

MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

Well it seems like you all ought to figure out some way to keep that baby if you - you know. If you're not going to clean it up you ought to at least secure it.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

It is in compliance with the Army regulations.

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MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

Well you know that's kind of like letting me write my own rules. Do you know what I'm saying? I mean it just seems to me like - it just seems to me like it ought to be more secure. You're saying you watch the gates. If somebody wants in that place they're not going to go in the main gate. I mean there's culverts underneath it that you can almost drive a jeep through it. Do you know what I'm saying?

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Yeah I know what you're saying and I understand that. But there are signs that are marked and it keeps the unknowing person out.

MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

I have no trespassing signs on my property either but there's people that don't believe in them.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

If they come through then they are trespassing.

MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

What's that mean?

MR. MIKE EARLY:

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It means they're trespassing.

MR. BRUCE GILKEY:

What's that mean?

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

In Indiana they are.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Well in Indiana the last fellow that was caught trespassing was put on - lost his weapon because he was poaching when he was there. Did he get fined or just put on probation?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

I believe there was a fine and a six (6) month suspension.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Six (6) month suspended sentence. That wasn't the first time that he was caught.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Does that fall under the federal law?

MR. MIKE EARLY:

 $\label{eq:he-he-the-choice} He-he-the-choice at that time was \\$ to prosecute under the local law. That was done in $Ripley\ County.$

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

I have a farm and I have to carry insurance so that if a trespasser comes in and falls in a pond or breaks his leg I'm responsible and I have - even though I've got signs and a fence it doesn't make sense.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

The Army, the government is self-insured so we don't - we don't go out and buy an insurance policy.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

I know.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Insurance policy with commercial zones.

MR. BOB HUDSON:

Kind of in line with their concerns in him discussing the agreement or tentative agreement between the Army and Fish and Wildlife on a trial basis. Did it cut out your use of the Air Guard assisting only on the part of the - in security of the - are they still a partner of the Army along with Fish and Wildlife?

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Yes. Let me answer your question. I think if I understand your question about what are we doing about opening the other pieces of O&M? And security there. We are working a separate agreement with the Air National Guard to assist with the other - other aspects of operation and maintenance, that fifty-one thousand (51,000) acre area. The - and one (1) of the things that the Air Guard will do as an example they will assist in maintaining some of the road network. They will not maintain the entire road network but will identify some of the roads that will be maintained. The Air Guard will maintain the roads.

MR. BOB HUDSON:

I figured that's the way it was. I just wanted to see for sure if the audience understood

that.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Yeah they will be assisting with that, with some of the security, with helping us monitor fence.

MR. BOB HUDSON:

Right.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

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They will be maintaining - if that agreement goes through they will be maintaining the cultural resources which include Oak Dale School House, the Old Timbers Lodge and the stone arch bridges that are on the National Historic Register.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

 $$\operatorname{\mathsf{Bob}}\xspace{1}$$ would like a copy of that sample agreement also.

MR. MIKE EARLY:

Does anybody else have any questions?

All right if you don't have any more questions I thank

you for coming and I will be around after the meeting if

something comes up that you have thought of during the meeting. Thank you.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Thank you. Something that Mike said there at the last that brought something to mind too I will go ahead and mention tonight. This Saturday, the 17th, this coming Saturday there are going to be some tours up there. There are three (3) aspects out there, the Oak Dale School and the Old Timbers Lodge. I talked to Mr. Elbert Heinz about that. I'm sure you could call Ken Knouf out at the Proving Ground and find out more about that if you're interested in looking at those this Saturday.

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

When is that? What's the date?

MR. RICHARD HILL:

This Saturday. Isn't that the 17th? Yeah, this coming Saturday. They're going to have three (3) tours. One at ten (10). One at noon and one at two (2) I believe.

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MRS. LILIAN CARMER:

Do you have to make reservations?

MR. RICHARD HILL:

 $\label{eq:control_loss} \mbox{It would help.} \quad \mbox{I think they would}$ have to know.

MRS. LILIAN CARMER:

I would think there's a limit to how many they take.

MR. BOB HUDSON:

I think it's in tonight's paper in the community activities or something. I think that's listed in one (1) of the current activities going on. People could contact Ken.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Contact Ken okay. Haven't seen tonight's paper yet. Thank you. Okay. Next we have Ms. Corinne Buoni with a status, update of the Army Community Relations Plan Revision.

MS. CORINNE BUONI:

A lot of you know me from the

previous BRAC meetings. My name is Corrine Buoni. with SAIC and we have been supporting the Army for the past three (3) years on various technical studies. two (2) studies that I'm going to talk about tonight, one (1) is on the efforts to up date the Community Involvement Program of Jefferson Proving Ground and the second the BRAC Closure Plan. First we will talk tonight about the Community Involvement Plan and what we've been doing recently. I have some additional charts that we may not show tonight but just for the background for those of you who may not have been here at previous RAB meetings. The chart again has been up at the previous two (2) RAB meetings. It briefly summarizes the purpose of the Community Involvement Program, what's been going on since it was closed in the past few years and our current plans to up date the plan and strengthen the communications strategy. I'm going to turn over the discussion now to Susan Cooke. Many of you met with her when she was out here in March conducting community interviews, interviews that are going to form the basis for restructuring the Community Involvement Plan. I'm going to let her briefly summarize the results of those interviews with you and then I will come back and talk on the BRAC Closure Plan.

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MS. SUSAN COOKE:

Thanks Corinne. And I think all of you have probably seen this before but the basic purpose of the Community Involvement Plan is to continue to keep the lines of communication open between the Army and the various communities involved and the program involved with the JPG interest areas of what's going on with the environmental restoration activities. And in partnership of course with the U.S. EPA Region 5 and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the commitment is to inform and educate the community about what's going on and the status of the various environmental studies in progress, creating opportunities for dialogue so the community can talk back and forth with the agencies and find out the latest, and to obtain community input on the decision when that is appropriate. And we did conduct a number of interviews and in March and I think I talked with some of you and hoped to touch base with all the RAB members before the process was drafted. The original Community Relations Plan was put out in 1995 and that was of course before BRAC and before the actual closure of the base, so many things have changed since then. want to include in the new one reports on the progress of the clean up, land transfer, talk about what's been happening in media up dates, public hearings and various

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presentations. And basically what we found when we were here talking to a lot of people. We - we conducted forty (40) interviews in March in the week we were here and then afterwards, and we found that a number of varying community perspectives relating to JPG, and relating to the environmental studies and activities. We did find that you know the majority of the people out there in the communities, we did talk to people from all three (3) counties: Jennings, Ripley and Jefferson and many of the cities around. We are finding of course general level of frustration about the progress, about how long things are taking, about the communication process and transfer of property. People want to see the land used productively. And of course they want to know what's going on. And that was one (1) of the biggest complaints I guess if you want to call it a complaint that we heard out there were that people really didn't feel like they knew exactly what was going on. And the information needs, they really want - you all want to hear about for instance, timely status reports, what's going on, and when. And you want to - most people want to read about it in the paper or hear about it on the radio. They like to get information up dates through the media. And they want to be able to have points of contact, people that they can call on a regular daily basis. And the people

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that they want to be able to contact are the people who can get them those answers that they're looking for. They want to make sure they know the right people to talk We will be summarizing all of the discussions and to. the results of the interviews in this up dated Community Involvement Plan. Our draft of that will be to the Army in mid-June and they will review it and then it will go to the other agencies for review. What part of that plan will include recommendations as a result of the interviews and as a result of what all of the community members have been telling us throughout this process. We wanted them to recommend to the agencies involved how they can do a better job in informing the communities around JPG as to what's going on. And we plan to include some of these activities in our recommendations that the people in the communities really want materials that help them understand the process, help them understand what's involved in UXO removal. What's involved in the other environmental studies that are going on. And at a level that they can understand, not any technical jargon, not using a lot of FOST and FOSLS and you know acronyms that you have to stop and think what that means. So they really want to be able to get information that explains things, things in a way that they can understand it. They want us to use the mailing list better and up date

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the mailing list so that we can keep regular direct contact with people who have a real interest in what's going on and providing more opportunity for a face to face discussion. We heard a lot of - of requests for the Army or other agencies to come out and talk with small groups or talk to neighborhood groups or community groups about what's going on, not just doing everything through the RAB process. So we hope to recommend those and other kinds of activities to the Army through this. The schedule is then we completed the interviews, we're going to release the draft, provide Community Involvement Plan to the Army on the 13th of June and then we will get review comments from the Army, send it to the other agencies and get their review and comments and we are aiming to have - release the final Community Involvement Plan by July 31st. And that of course implementing the Plan and on going progress will continue throughout this whole - this whole process. And of course because we are still in the process of drafting it right now we are still open to any comments you want to make. As I said there are a variety of comments from a variety of people across your communities and we appreciate the openness and honestness with people's concerns and they really you know told us what we wanted to hear. We found out where the information needs are and what people want to know

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and how they want to be communicated with. And so we're certainly open to repeating any more opinions that you want to give to us. We will reflect those in the draft document and of course in the final document as well.

Are there any questions about this part of the process?

I'll turn it back over to Corinne for her up date on the BRAC.

MS. CORINNE BUONI:

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Okay. The Base Realignment and Closure Plan is a document that we put together last year. The purpose of the document, and this is an up dated document prepared back in 1995, basically the BRAC Clean Up Plan or the Base Realignment and Clean Up Plan is referred to as the BCP in short language. summarizes the current status of the environmental clean up associated with compliance programs meeting all the regulatory requirements that are associated with closing that property and transferring it to potential buyers. And it presents a strategy for implementing actions to protect human health in the environment and facilitate disposal and use of the JPG property. The Army asked us to up date the plan last year, release the draft version back in August of '96. Regulatory comments came back in the end of February. And since then we've taken the

opportunity in the time that we had to do a thorough review of the document and to bring it up to a current status that's much more accurate than it was back in '95. A lot has happened since then. We've really taken a thorough review of all of the property and cross referenced everything. There was some ambiguity with different nomenclatures used. We have done a thorough review of all of those and cross referenced everything. We also took the opportunity to make the maps more detailed and more informative to the reader, more clear in terms of context of where the property is within the installation. So we feel that this is going to be a much more useful document to the RAB members and the community. And as an example this is one (1) map (indicating) that was not in the earlier version of the report and now with the installation closed it's something that would be useful to the reader. You probably can't see it too well. It's probably better in your hand out. But basically it presents the status of land in the cantonment area that's either leased or transferred and this map will be up dated over time. We're probably going to make some changes to high light the areas that are going to be surveyed for UXO removal. As I said we plan to release this document and up date it in June for Army review. And then after Army review

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we'll finalize the document and get it out probably in mid-June. So in summary we're on track for up dating the Community Involvement Plan for the Army and the BRAC Plan will be released in June and distributed to the RAB members where we will implement the comments. It's actually a good document to keep track of all the environmental studies that are going on and clean up activities. So are there any questions?

MRS. LILIAN CARMER:

libraries?

MS. CORINNE BUONI:

Yes it will. And for those of you that are not aware they're keeping copies of documents such as these at Hanover College. It's up on the second floor. You have to go to the far corner. They're tucked away but it is there. Thank you.

Will this plan also be in the local

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Thank you. Now we have time for open discussion. There is something else I want to mention about the tours this Saturday. I was just informed that Ken Knouf is out this week but you can still call his

office and that's 273-2551. That will get you there.
Okay. I want to bring that up. Does anyone have any
questions or comments about anything we either did or did
not cover tonight? You're really quiet. Okay. I just
have a couple of really short things that might go along
with this. (Reading) We covered that. We covered that.
Oh good. Okay. We are still looking for new RAB
members. We did send out a letter to existing RAB
members to ask them if they're still interested in
participating. And from that we can determine how many
people we really do have at this point. And Paul do you
have any closing remarks?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

would like to again remind if you haven't signed in on our attendance sheet and you're not on our mailing list that you please sign in and we will keep you informed of future meetings and where they're going to be located. And in regards to that I believe this will probably be the last meeting that we hold here in the Salvation Army. Richard and I have discussed this briefly. It's our intent to rotate the meetings between the library here in Madison and the library, new library in North Vernon and probably Versailles High School on a rotating basis. And

that will give various counties a better opportunity and probably an easier access to the meetings. We will see how that works out. This should be the last meeting here at the Salvation Army. Any future meetings I would anticipate would be at the library down the street a So the next meeting is scheduled for the 9th of July. Richard and I in coordination with the State and the EPA will coordinate as to where that next one (1) will be. I expect it will either be in North Vernon or Versailles and when the letter comes out that Richard and I co-sign announcing the meeting and the agenda, we will identify the specific address of that meeting. So that's new information that I think you'll be able to make use Other than that appreciate your coming tonight. of. you do have any questions that you would like to ask after we're finished here, which I think we're just about done, feel free to ask and we will answer them to the best of our ability. With that I would like to thank you and if there's no other questions I think we're done with our formal presentation. Thank you.

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CONCLUSION OF HEARING

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CERTIFICATE

STATE OF INDIANA)
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON)

I, Sharon Shields, do hereby certify that I am a Notary Public in and for the County of Jefferson. State of Indiana, duly authorized and qualified to administer oaths: That the foregoing public hearing was taken by me in shorthand and on a tape recorder on May 14, 1997 in the offices of the Salvation Army Headquarters, 331 East Main Street, Madison, IN; That this public hearing was taken on behalf of the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board pursuant to agreement for taking at this time and place; That the testimony of the witnesses was reduced to typewriting by me and contains a complete and accurate transcript of the said testimony.

I further certify that pursuant to stipulation by and between the respective parties, this testimony has been transcribed and submitted to the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board.

WITNESS my hand and notarial seal this 23.1. day of May, 1997.

Sharon Shields, Notary Public Jefferson County, State of Indiana

My Commission Expires: July 2, 1999

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